

**PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELOR EDUCATION**

"Preparing professionals to meet our diverse communities' lifelong educational needs"

Diversity & Inclusiveness

- to work in diverse settings
- to promote inclusive and therapeutic environments

Research-Based Practices & Professional Standards

- to critically analyze and implement research-based practices
- to demonstrate appropriate professional values, knowledge, and skills

Impact on Learning and Development / Personal and Professional Growth

- to ensure students and clients succeed
- to influence policy and provide leadership for organizations

Evidence-Informed Decision Making

- to use evidence to solve problems of practice and enhance therapeutic decisions

**COUN 509: Practicum: Counseling Clinic
Spring & Summer Terms, 2012**

INSTRUCTOR

Russell D. Miars, Ph.D.

506L Education Bldg.

Office phone: 725-4611 (voice mail messages)

Office Hours: Monday 1:30 – 3:00

Wednesday 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Email in advance to confirm an appointment: miarsr@pdx.edu

If you require accommodations (e.g., interpreter, note-taker, etc.), please see me immediately. I will work with you to facilitate getting any needed supports.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

COUN 509 is a two-term, 40-hour direct client contact practicum experience in the PSU Community Counseling Clinic, Graduate School of Education. Students are closely supervised through one-way mirror observation, immediate peer supervisor debriefing, and review of counseling video recordings. Weekly individual / group supervision are provided by the Clinic-section faculty supervisor.

ESSENTIAL PRACTICES ADDRESSED IN THIS COURSE:

- Develop effective helping and intervention skills
- Develop ethical clinical practice
- Meet the unique needs of diverse clients
- Create environments that enhance professional and clinical practice
- Identify community resources and appropriately consult with, refer, and/or collaborate in order to meet client needs
- Use professional resources
- Apply professional ethics

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Conduct client counseling sessions in the Practicum Training Clinic under the close supervision of a faculty supervisor
2. Debrief observed and recorded counseling sessions with Peer Supervisor
3. Participate in Group Supervision to enhance the development of counseling assessment and case management skills

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

Baird, B.N. (2008). *The internship, Practicum, and Field Placement Handbook: A Guide for the Helping Professions*. Upper Saddle, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

American Counseling Association. (2005). *ACA Code of ethics*. Alexandria, VA: Author.

RECOMMENDED TEXT SECOND QUARTER

Johnson, S. L. (2004). *Therapist's guide to clinical intervention: The 1-2-3s of treatment planning*. New York: Academic Press.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

I. Liability Insurance

You must have the ACA Insurance Trust (or equivalent) student professional liability insurance prior to providing counseling services in the PSU Counseling Clinic.

II. Clinic time structure

8:50 -> practicum students get files organized; be ready @ 9:00 a.m.

9:00 - 10:25 -> Group Supervision / triage

10:30 – 11:30 -> Client hour #1

11:30 - 12:30 -> Client hour #2

12:30 - 1:30 -> Client hour #3

1:30 - 2:30 -> debrief with intern peer supervisor

2:30 - 2:50 -> Case notes (must be finished by 3 p.m.)

III. Time commitments (required)

Practicum students: 9:00 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Intern Supervisors: 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

DEPARTMENT POLICY STATEMENT:

The counseling profession requires a high level of personal integrity, self-awareness, and personal maturity. Demonstrating professionalism in classroom behavior, as well as being present and engaged in classroom activities, is expected at all times as a graduate student in Counselor Education.

Students are expected to attend all class meetings; however, one absence is not considered excessive. Students whose beliefs, religious practices, or lifestyles may conflict with class attendance from time to time should discuss such issues with the course instructor at the beginning of the term. If possible, arrangements should be made to make up missed attendance-related assignments and experiences. It is up to the student and instructor to negotiate a satisfactory solution with respect to absences.

Students and faculty are expected to maintain an atmosphere in which controversial issues, germane to the subject matter, can be examined and discussed. In exercising this freedom of expression, faculty and students are expected to exercise appropriate restraint and show respect for the opinion of others.

The Counselor Education Department seeks to balance providing care and support, high expectations, and opportunities for participation in meaningful activities. All students are expected to participate in constructing a respectful learning environment in the classroom. Arrive to class on time, stay for the entire class, come back from breaks on time, turn off cell phones, etc. Be mindful of what might detract from the learning experience of students and faculty alike (e.g., talking to fellow students during lecture).

All students in the Department must demonstrate behavior that is consistent with the Ethical Standards put forth in 2005 by the American Counseling Association:

<http://www.counseling.org/resources/ethics.htm>

Failure to do so can result in termination from the program.

Demonstrating effective ethical and professional conduct is extremely important and will be monitored and reviewed by the faculty throughout your time in the program in order to assess your development as a professional counselor. Formal occasions for feedback in this regard occur following First Year Student Reviews (May of each year) and during Practicum and Internship. Concerns and deficiencies will be brought to your attention and used by faculty in assessing your overall academic/ professional progress in the Department. Deficiencies which are not corrected will be cause for disciplinary action which may include termination from the Department

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

1. practicum students should observe other practicum students' counseling work in "down time" for additional learning re: style variation
2. "dress-up casual" for clinic attire
3. interns can/should serve as an alternate/backup observer during "down time"
4. everyone is to observe the 2005 ACA Ethical Code at all times
5. the Clinic needs everyone (including interns) in the clinic during the designated times; your service in the Clinic should be a priority and you should miss very rarely, if ever; leave a message if you cannot be here
6. **Never** take clinical materials out of the Clinic—**strict confidentiality**
7. **Never** send anything electronically (via email or the web) from the Clinic, or from home to the Clinic; safeguard your digital recording memory stick for confidentiality